

TAXONOMIC NOTES ON THE GENUS *ARCHITIS* (ARANEAE, PISAURIDAE) AND STATUS OF THE GENUS *SISENNA* SIMON

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ABSTRACT. *Dyrines tenuipes* (Simon) is a senior synonym of *Architis vilhena* Carico. *Thanatidius proximatus* Mello-Leitão (= *Thanatidius parahybensis* Mello-Leitão) is a junior synonym of *Architis tenuis* Simon. *Sisenna* Simon is a junior synonym of the genus *Architis*. *Sisenna helveola* Simon, the only species placed in *Sisenna*, is redescribed and figured as *Architis helveola* (Simon). A lectotype of the latter species is designated. Errata in a previous publication are noted.

During a survey of types of some lesser known pisaurid genera in the New World, three misplaced species were found to belong to the pisaurid genus *Architis*. This paper reports on the taxonomic status of these species.

***Dyrines tenuipes* (Simon).**—*Dyrines tenuipes* (Simon 1898^b:18) (transferred from *Drances* by Petrunkevith 1911:543) is a senior synonym of *Architis vilhena* Carico (1981:150, figs. 1, 10, 22, 23) based on the examination of six male syntypes, #5408, deposited in the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, collected from Cameta, Para, Brazil by Mathan. The female was described by Carico (1989:224, figs. 6, 7). The correct name of this species is, therefore, *Architis tenuipes* (Simon). NEW SYNONYMY.

***Thanatidius proximatus* Mello-Leitão.**—The holotype of *Thanatidius parahybensis* Mello-Leitão (1924) from Campino Grande, Paraíba, Brazil, collected by Tranquilino Mello-Leitão (specimen #88, labelled *Pisaurina parahybensis* Mello-Leitão), in the Museu Nacional do Rio de Janeiro, is a penultimate female collected just prior to ecdysis. The adult epigynum is clearly visible through the old cuticle, and close examination reveals the characteristic features of *Architis tenuis* Simon.

Mello-Leitão described this specimen first (1920) as *T. proximatus* and later (1924) as *T. parahybensis*. Roewer (1954) first reported the objective synonymy. Bonnet (1959) lists only *T. parahybensis*. Both are junior synonyms of *Architis tenuis* Simon. NEW SYNONYMY.

Errata in previous publication.—In my revision of the genus *Architis* (Carico 1981), labels for epigyna of two species were interchanged.

Figures 26, 27 should be labelled *A. nitidopilosa*, and figs. 32, 33 should be labelled *A. tenuis* as was reported by Sierwald (1989). Additionally, fig. 6 should be labelled *A. cymatilis*.

Sisenna helveola.—The type of the monotypic genus, *Sisenna*, *S. helveola* Simon, is congeneric with the genus *Architis*. Therefore, the genus *Sisenna* is a junior synonym (NEW SYNONYMY) of the pisaurid genus *Architis*. This conclusion differs from that of Sierwald (1990) who placed *Sisenna* tentatively in her "Trechalea genus-group," which I regard as the family Trechaleidae.

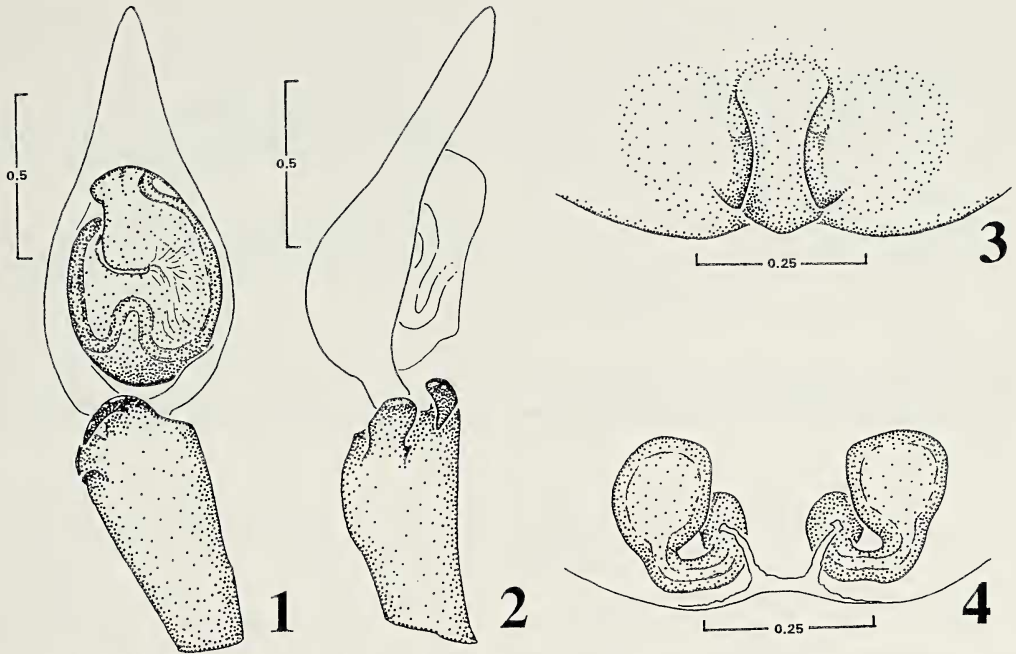
Below is the redescription of *A. helveola*, which becomes the tenth known species in the Neotropical genus *Architis*, four of which were described by Simon. It is interesting to note that Simon originally placed his four species into three different pisaurid genera which he also described: *Architis* (two species), *Drances* (one species) and *Sisenna* (one species). The male genitalia of all *Architis* species are quite similar while the eyes and body shape show a greater range of variability. Apparently Simon placed more emphasis on these non-genitalic characters in his generic definitions.

Architis helveola (Simon)
Figures 1-4

Sisenna helveola Simon, 1898^b:12 (n. sp.). Simon, 1898^a: 292, figs. 290, 291 (n. gen.).

Sisenna helveola, Roewer, 1954:123. Bonnet, 1955-1959:4065.

Type.—Male syntype from São Paulo Olivença, Amazonas, Brazil, designated herein as lectotype. Female paralectotype from same locality.



Figures 1–4.—Genitalia of *Architis helveola*: 1, 2, right male palpus; 1, ventral view; 2, retrolateral view; 3, 4, epigynum; 3, ventral view; 4, dorsal view. Scales are in mm.

This part of the Mathan Collection identified as #6895 in the Muséum National d’Histoire Naturelle, Paris. Examined.

Diagnosis.—This species resembles *Architis tenuis* and *A. nitidopilosa* in the AE row configuration (see Carico 1981, fig. 9). It differs from the latter two species in details of the genitalia, particularly the tibial apophysis of the male and the ventral view of the female epigynum, and by the lack of short, stout spines on the ventral surface of coxae I and II.

Description.—(Measurements in mm) *Male lectotype*: Carapace low, no pattern on cream ground color; each eye individually ringed in black; length 2.9, width 2.4. Sternum length 1.45, width 1.50, unmarked; labium length 0.46, width 0.42, unmarked, rounded anteriorly. Eye measurements: AE row 0.83, PE row 0.80; ocular quadrangle height 0.42, width posterior 0.40, width anterior 0.34; diameters PLE 0.16, PME 0.16, ALE 0.12, AME 0.14; interdistances PLE-PME 0.18, PME-PME 0.12, ALE-AME 0.24, AME-AME 0.08. Clypeus height 0.05 (ALE) or 0.22 (AME), width 1.02. Legs I–II–IV–III, unmarked with numerous long, dark macrosetae. Measurements are given in Table 1.

Abdomen narrow, mostly covered with irregular white pattern on cream ground color except

for midventral area; patch of dark hairs on anterodorsal margin, length 5.1. Palpus (Figs. 1, 2) with two tibial apophyses: ventral one curved and pointed apically, retrolateral one flat, curved towards cymbium with small point at base ventrally.

Female paralectotype: Carapace color and pattern as in male; length 3.0, width 2.5. Sternum

Table 1.—Leg measurements (in mm) for the male lectotype and the female paralectotype of *Architis helveola* (Simon).

	I	II	III	IV
Male				
Femur	5.45	5.2	3.5	4.4
Tibia-patella	7.4	7.0	4.25	4.65
Metatarsus	6.6	6.1	3.5	4.45
Tarsus	2.1	1.95	1.1	1.6
Total	21.55	20.25	12.6	15.1
Female				
Femur	4.9	—	3.4	4.1
Tibia-patella	6.75	—	4.0	4.55
Metatarsus	6.0	—	3.55	4.1
Tarsus	1.85	—	1.35	1.6
Total	19.5	—	12.3	14.35

and labium as in male. Abdomen pattern and hairs as in male, length 5.35. Sternum length 1.60, width 1.55, unmarked; labium length 0.55, width 0.50, unmarked, rounded anteriorly. Eye measurements: AE row 0.92, PE row 0.86; ocular quadrangle height 0.40, width posterior 0.45, width anterior 0.36; diameters PLE 0.17, PME 0.17, ALE 0.12, AME 0.13; interdistances PLE-PME 0.22, PME-PME 0.16, ALE-AME 0.33, AME-AME 0.11. Legs (II missing), color and macrosetae as in male, and the measurements are in Table 1.

Epigynum with openings medially, each under longitudinal ridge (Figs. 3, 4), pale and soft externally.

Natural history.—Unknown.

Distribution and material examined.—These male and female are the only known specimens.

Notes.—Bonnet (1955–1959:77) changed the spelling of this species as well as other “helveola” species of Simon to “helvola”, because the latter is a more frequently used form. The “helveola” spelling does indeed seem to be a rare form (H. D. Cameron pers. comm.), but the spelling change is not justified according to the current International Code of Zoological Nomenclature.

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